

MINUTES
CITY OF WOODSTOCK
OLD COURTHOUSE AND SHERIFF'S HOUSE ADVISORY COMMISSION
September 19, 2016
City Council Chambers

A Regular Meeting of the City of Woodstock Old Courthouse and Sheriff's House Advisory Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Dennis Sandquist on Monday, September 19, 2016 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

A roll call was taken.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Campion, Trisha Doornbosch, Jim Prindiville, David Stumpf, Joseph White and Chairman Dennis Sandquist.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Lynde Anderson and Tammy Townsend-Kise

STAFF PRESENT: City Planner/Staff Liaison Nancy Baker, Economic Director Garrett Anderson, and Grant Writer Terry Willcockson.

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Cindy Smiley and Friends of the Old Courthouse representative Susan Stelford.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by J. Campion, second by J. Prindiville, to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2016 regular meeting of the Old Courthouse and Sheriff's House Advisory Commission with the following correction:

- Page 6, Final Paragraph, First Sentence should read "In response to a question from the Commission about what is done..."

Ayes: J. Campion, T. Doornbosch, J. Prindiville, and J. White. Nays: none. Abstentions: D. Stumpf and Chairman Dennis Sandquist. Absentees: L. Anderson and T. Townsend-Kise. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maida Korte, 422 W. South Street, stated she has been a resident of Woodstock for 11 years. She stated she and her husband had a dream to move out of the city to the country and made that dream a reality by moving to Woodstock, noting that dream began with a vision. Ms. Korte stated she has a vision for the Old Courthouse for a long time which she has shared with family and friends. She noted the Square is a diamond in the rough which can sparkle again. She explained her vision of a building with a noble past of cultural significance which would be run by a co-op with "condos" that could be built. She noted the building must have an elevator and be accessible. She stated the first floor would be a 4-star bar, like a speak-easy, with a 4-star restaurant and the lobby would have little shops. She then stated the upper floor would include a 4-star hotel with beautiful rooms that would be rented out six months in advance. Ms. Korte stated her vision for the arts includes devoting the Sheriff's House to the arts with art classes and visiting artist hosted for a weekend. She thanked the Commission for the opportunity to present her vision.

Brian Christensen, 121 Grove Street, commended the Commission for selecting the ArtSpace group to conduct the study and prepare the report to be discussed this evening. He noted he has seen other projects this group has been involved with. He stated he is excited and satisfied with what is outlined in the report which provided some good ideas. He also expressed approval of the recommendation in the report that the City work cooperatively with other groups, reaching out to the County, and that there be a better synthesis between the Opera House and the Old Courthouse.

ARTSPACE STUDY

Chairman Sandquist acknowledged the report prepared by Nancy Baker, giving background information and suggesting questions that might be asked. He also acknowledged the memo prepared for the City Manager and City Council by Terry Willcockson. He also noted that the Commission cannot take any action on this agenda item but can discuss the ArtSpace Creative Spaces Consulting Report with a summary of the discussion passed on to the City Council. He opened the floor to discussion by the Commission members.

In response to a question from D. Stumpf, N. Baker noted the report has been transmitted to the City Council and will be discussed by them on October 4. Chairman Sandquist noted the Commission is a recommending body with the City Council being the decision body.

The Commission began discussion the recommendations made by ArtSpace:

Recommendation #1 - Make broad community and County buy-in a very high priority

D. Stumpf noted this recommendation is a given and is one of the reason's the Commission was created. He stated the Commission should continue to do this to gain public input. He then stated the question is when and how to bring the County into the discussion in a meaningful way.

Noting that while he is an employee of the County and his role on the Commission is as a resident, Chairman Sandquist stated perhaps a way could be found to present this to a ~~couple of the~~ County decision-makers.

J. Prindiville stated this is a challenge, noting that no one has stepped up to support the effort to secure recognition for Eugene Debs' stay at the Sheriff's House, which he finds disheartening. He noted this could be illustrative of how challenging getting this buy-in could be.

Recommendation #2 – The City should retain ownership of the Old Courthouse and Sheriff's House

T. Doornbosch opined the City should retain ownership of the Old Courthouse but stated she does not rule out selling off the Sheriff's House. She noted the City could retain much control over the Sheriff's House through the Historic Preservation Commission and Building and Zoning regulations. She stated she does not want to see this ruled out at this point.

D. Stumpf stated he hopes to have the opportunity to talk about the Sheriff's House becoming a national monument with ownership by the Federal government.

Chairman Sandquist expressed agreement with the City retaining ownership.

J. Prindiville stated his feeling that the ownership of the buildings should not be separated. He stated who is the owner may depend upon the requirements of the tenant so this should not be decided at this point.

Chairman Sandquist noted it may be more viable to have one owner from elevator access standpoint.

J. White opined if it is determined that the Old Courthouse be used as a dining or banquet facility, the Sheriff's House is where this would be staged, noting he does not see this function working in the Old Courthouse. He stated he feels the end solution will be arts and dining and the Sheriff's House would be very purposeful for these uses.

J. Campion stated he does not see the two buildings as one. He noted, while he believes public ownership is going to happen, conceptually he does not rule out selling off the Sheriff's House.

D. Stumpf stated the report suggests having a master lease, noting the Commission has knowledge of other situations in which this model works. He stated the Commission should keep in mind the scenario in which there is an anchor tenant which manages the whole building and has decision-making authority.

Chairman Sandquist stated he is not convinced one organization could manage the variety of uses that may be in the building. He opined that perhaps there could be an organization managing each floor based upon uses.

J. Prindiville described the Groton House and its master lease, noting this is a good model of how this can be done. D. Stumpf agreed, noting there should be a master not-for-profit fundraising effort with the money coming into that organization rather than each use or entity managing its own fundraising effort.

Chairman Sandquist noted his agreement with the finding of the report which stated the City would be responsible for capital and major maintenance expenses, while the managing entity would be responsible for routine maintenance and operating expenses.

Recommendation #3 – The City should create a new nonprofit organization (or identify an existing one to operate the Old Courthouse complex

Chairman Sandquist noted this is the same recommendation as that made by the ULI.

D. Stumpf stated this is a good recommendation and stated the Commission can look at examples of other such agreements that work and could see if there are existing organizations that meet the required criteria.

J. Prindiville noted there is nothing in the report about who or what groups would fit the criteria. D. Stumpf noted perhaps the City could go back to ask the ArtSpace group for such agreements with sample leases, with Mr. Prindiville requesting that they also be asked for who the players are in this community they see as logical participants.

In response to a question from T. Doornbosch, Chairman Sandquist stated the report is recommending City ownership with a master tenant operator which would be the not-for-profit and

would do the leasing and have a mission statement. D. Stumpf noted the master tenant would also do all the scheduling and manage day-to-day activities.

J. White asked what City Department would supervise the not-for-profit, stating he does not wish to create another City entity that must monitor contracts and the not-for-profit. D. Stumpf noted in Lake Forest there is a Board of Directors that has a budget review process, with the budget approved by the city. J. Prindiville stated Lake Forest appoints one-third of the board members and that the board has financial oversight responsibility. He also noted the Lake Forest has a Facilities Department that is the go-to Department if there is an issue with the building. In response to a question from J. White, Mr. Prindiville stated if someone has a problem with the not-for-profit, the elected representatives of Lake Forest have decided it is their role to intervene. He noted this is how it works in Lake Forest, but another municipality may structure it differently.

D. Stumpf noted there is very little of the kind of dispute referred to by Commissioner White, noting most issues are handled by the Executive Director. He stated this is one advantage of this kind of structure as the village does not manage the building, removing this burden.

J. White stated when looking at costs we are saying we are maintaining the building and maintaining all of the not-for-profits that are working within it. He opined that sometimes it is hard for not-for-profits to stay afloat.

J. White stated the meeting began with a resident discussing her vision. He noted he wishes to let people to come in and spend money at the Old Courthouse and does not see the money and jobs that the vibrant Square needs with what Artspace is talking about and is having difficulty seeing how this would pay for itself. He stated he loves the idea of a hotel and banquet facility with the Sheriff's House being the staging area. He opined that most people want to go to dinner and spend money on the Square so that appeals to him rather than a not-for-profit that doesn't pull in money. He stated he has been waiting for a vision and likes what he heard.

#4 – At some future time, the City may wish to consider having the same nonprofit operate the Opera House as well

J. Campion opined that ArtSpace is going beyond what they were asked to do, which was to evaluate the Old Courthouse and Sheriff's House. He stated he does not think this is part of what they or the Commission should be considering.

Chairman Sandquist stated they are suggesting these buildings are the heart of the Square and should have complementary uses. He stated, however, that he agrees that this is beyond their scope.

T. Doornbosch stated she has a problem with this recommendation, noting it would require getting rid of some staff. She asked, however, whether current Opera House staff could be utilized at the Old Courthouse as well.

D. Stumpf stated he took note that ArtSpace raised concerns about the current operations concerning the Opera House stating it generates a fraction of the funds of other comparable facilities and asked if the Opera House is being managed effectively now and whether the Old Courthouse and the Opera House be merged. He agreed that this is beyond the scope of the Commission.

J. Prindiville stated it should be noted that the City has a lot of expertise in managing historic buildings.

It was the consensus of the Commission that Recommendation #4 was beyond the scope of the ArtSpace Study but that the City already has staff managing one historic building and it should be asked if they could manage another building rather than creating a separate entity.

RECOMMENDED USES:

Recommendation #5 – Retain the restaurant and arts center

Chairman Sandquist stated he supports this vision.

J. Campion stated his feeling that the restaurant that is there is wonderful but noted it would take a four or five-star restaurant if one is looking to draw people from Chicago or other areas. He opined the current restaurant serves our community very well but does not draw from Chicago. D. Stumpf noted the current restaurant is packed most nights.

In response to a question from Chairman Sandquist, J. Campion stated he does not want to lose the current restaurant but if the Commission is looking to bring people out to Woodstock they will not be coming to this restaurant. He stated once people come to Woodstock, they would enjoy it but he doesn't feel the current restaurant will bring the people out. Mr. Campion stated he does not feel two restaurants would be compatible. Chairman Sandquist agreed the building could not support both restaurants. Discussion followed of the new restaurant that will be opening at the former Pirro's location.

J. White stated the City should be encouraging people to come to Woodstock to spend the day and spend money.

J. Campion opined that a more upscale restaurant could go into another building on the Square, stating the restaurant that is currently in the Old Courthouse is a great fit.

J. Prindiville opined that retaining a restaurant in the Old Courthouse severely limits what can be done with that building. He also opined that keeping the Arts Center in the Old Courthouse defines the use of the building. He stated if the Commission decides to do that, it should just move on. He stated there is a lot of work to be done on the building which cannot be done with current tenants occupying the space, noting he would not keep the tenants if he were undertaking this project but rather would like to start with a blank slate. He stated if he were renovating the building and was the master tenant, he would like to decide what types of operators go in there and what would be done with the building. He noted if the current tenants are kept, the management would not have control.

In response to a question from Chairman Sandquist, J. Prindiville stated these are not uses he would put back into the building post renovation. He opined that this is a public building and that restaurants, bars, and coffee shops are good for the private sector to do. He also noted the mechanical requirements of a restaurant are astronomical, stating this is an old public building and those uses do not make sense to him.

Chairman Sandquist stated the Commission is here to decide what the community likes, including from an Economic Development perspective.

J. Prindiville noted the uses currently being discussed could go into a private building.

D. Stumpf stated the City should take ArtSpace up on their offer to expand on their study because they have been successful in fundraising and creating successful entities. He stated he does not share Commissioner Prindiville's concern about making this a going entity. He opined that studios have a draw but are somewhat closed spaces and are not a big draw for the community. He noted he is open to this but the idea needs a lot more fleshing out.

J. Prindiville stated reading the report opened his eyes to another possibility, namely maintaining the status quo. He stated he would recommend the City not spend any additional money on the inside but put the money toward the outside. He stated he would let the groups and users finance everything on the inside. In response to a comment from Chairman Sandquist, Mr. Prindiville stated he does not feel this is unreasonable and opined the City should not waste the money on the inside and should, instead, work on the outside of the building. Chairman Sandquist stated he does not think the residents would support fixing the outside of the building if they are not going to be able to use the inside.

D. Stumpf stated he is optimistic about fundraising and getting the money to complete the building.

Discussion ensued concerning whether the current tenants can remain while the needed work is completed.

#6 – Add “micro” retail and working studios for artists

In response to a comment from Commissioner Stumpf that the study opined that there are not enough arts in the community and, therefore, other uses should be explored, Chairman Sandquist stated the study recommended retaining the restaurant and the arts center and using the remainder of the space for retail on that floor

#7 – Add a Co-working Center on the second floor

D. Stumpf stated the study also talked about having common space used as kind of an incubator environment.

T. Doornbosch stated this incubator concept was discussed in depth at the last meeting, noting that what is being recommended by ArtSpace is pretty much what was previously discussed.

D. Stumpf stated he is very familiar with this concept as he is helping to set up such a facility near 1871 [in Chicago]. He stated he likes this recommendation and thinks it is a good idea whether it is arts-related or not, opining the 2nd floor would be a nice space for this.

Chairman Sandquist stated he likes this use a lot and would be supportive of inviting ArtSpace to explore this further because Woodstock is not Chicago and he is not sure this is a good idea for Woodstock. In response, Commissioner Stumpf stated he is not sure it is ArtSpace who should be asked to do this.

D. Stumpf noted there are a lot of Ag-related start-ups in the area which may be possible tenants. He stated a University may use this space as well which would be a plus. He noted the incubator he is helping to develop in Chicago has many Masters students who come in to the space to learn and to become entrepreneurs. He opined another idea would be the medical community. He again opined that ArtSpace may not be the best entity to do an assessment of this.

Chairman Sandquist stated the Commission should determine if there is support for this type of use as not much support was expressed for this in the survey.

In response to a question from J. Prindiville, G. Anderson provided information on the fiber project and its location in relation to the Old Courthouse.

J. Prindiville agreed with Commissioner Stumpf's point on Ag-related enterprises, noting it is a dynamic industry on Woodstock's doorstep.

Commissioner Stumpf noted the Ag industry and the extension centers are working on high tech. He stated there are families who have been in the area for generations in this business and perhaps the City could reach out to them for ideas and assistance. Commissioner Stumpf discussed social philanthropy and how it could be used for this project. He noted a vision should be created and then large corporations approached.

J. Prindiville opined the co-work use will not draw the public other than those that will use it and would not draw people to Woodstock to use it. D. Stumpf stated there are visitors who come in to use the facility at 1871, including students from all levels. He stated an ambiance could be created that brings in this group of people.

Chairman Sandquist stated he would like to see an example of a co-work space in small-town American which is not affiliated with a University.

#6 – Add “micro retail and working studios for artists

Chairman Sandquist requested the discussion return to Recommendation #6, asking for additional comments.

J. Campion stated he liked this recommendation.

Chairman Sandquist stated this use is more public oriented.

J. Prindiville opined this use would put more people into the building but noted there are many code issues that would be involved. Chairman Sandquist stated this would be predicated upon a fully-restored facility.

#8 – Transform the Sheriff's House into a history museum, preferably with a restaurant or coffee shop

D. Stumpf noted he originally proposed some type of museum and also something recognizing the connection to Eugene V. Debs. He noted this got him discussing another way to approach this. Noting the Pullman neighborhood in Chicago and its connection to Debs, he stated the City has a treasure in the Sheriff's House connection. He stated he has started looking into making the Sheriff's House an extension of the Pullman Museum in Chicago, noting it could be a national

monument. He stated the President has the authority to dedicate a piece of federal property as a national monument and described how this could be done. He stressed that the property must be given to the federal government for this to be possible.

Commissioner Stumpf talked about an impact statement identifying the benefits an area derives from having one located in it. He stated even the least-attended brings at least \$1 million to its area per year. He also noted there are several jobs tied to them. He stated his feeling that it is worth studying this more and thinking about making the Sheriff's House a federal property and then trying to get it made a national monument. He noted that community policing really started in Woodstock with the Crimestoppers and his feeling that the building could be tied to other aspects of history. Mr. Stumpf also stated the building could house exhibits from the various historic organizations in the County.

J. Prindiville gave his enthusiastic support to Commissioner Stumpf's idea noting it could create tourism.

In response to a question from T. Doornbosch, Commissioner Stumpf stated the federal government would fund this as it would be on federal property.

In response to a question from Chairman Sandquist as to whether the property can be given to the federal government with the stipulation that it become a national monument, Commissioner Stumpf stated there are politics involved and it must be supported by the Governor and state and local officials.

In response to a question from Commissioner Prindiville as to where to start, Commissioner Stumpf suggested that Nancy Baker provide the document and information that he has to the other Commission members.

T. Doornbosch stated she liked the idea of this because the City does not have to pay for it but does not like the idea of a museum, noting the Dick Tracy Museum was located in the Old Courthouse and did not last. She also stated she did not see how this would produce much income for the City and would not vote for anything that pulls traffic away from the historic society in Union.

Concerning the idea expressed in the recommendation that a coffee shop be located in the Sheriff's House, Commissioner Prindiville discussed the problems the City has had with a coffee shop in the train station. He also noted such a coffee shop would compete with the other coffee shops on the Square. He stated he could support a gift shop but not a coffee shop.

J. White state he knows a little bit about the Pullman history and opined that it is a reach to say that because Eugene Debs was in jail in the Sheriff's House for six months, people would be interested enough in the Pullman history to make the trek all the way to the Sheriff's House to see where Mr. Debs was jailed for a short period. He stated he does not feel this is enough of a draw. Commissioner White stated he never heard of Eugene Debs in history class and feels this is a tidbit of history that the City should not hang its hopes on to be a draw for Woodstock. In response to additional comments from Commissioner White that he doubts this could happen with a lame duck president and an uncertain election cycle, Commissioner Stumpf stated this would not happen in the time frame referenced by Mr. White.

J. White stated he is frustrated that the Commission is still debating and discussing this and hopes it can come up with a vision next year.

J. White stated he feels that same way about the Ag discussion and asked what large farmer would do this. He opined that Ag is not the same now as in the past, now having only a handful of players. He stated he doesn't see that anyone will step up in any of the Ag families.

Commissioner Stumpf stated he does not think you need the Pullman link and that Debs is really about the labor movement and social justice. He also noted that Woodstock has four major historic figures, including Debs, Orson Welles, and Chester Gould, stating the City should try to feature these types of things. Commissioner Stumpf asked that the Commission members take a look at the report he has, opining that the Sheriff's House would measure up.

J. Campion stated he feels either one of the buildings could be used for a museum. He stated he does not see it happening, however, that the Sheriff's House will be owned by the federal government and be made a national monument.

Chairman Sandquist stated he does not support using the building as a local museum as that would be a "one and done" use as far as visitors are concerned and would not have enough significance to bring people here from long distances but would rather be something people would visit when they are already on the Square. He stated that if it could become a national monument, however, with that type of recognition, he would be more interested.

Chairman Sandquist stated his opinion that the jail space would be the hardest for which to come up with an adaptive reuse that would keep the jail space the way it is.

In response to a question from J. White as to whether the cells must always be part of the building, Chairman Sandquist stated that one of the respondents to the RFP proposed that they be relocated to the basement. He stated he does not know whether this would be acceptable. He opined that it would very appealing to have a restaurant in which the cells are used as dining space. He noted when he and Commissioner Townsend-Kise met with people regarding education uses and asked what could be in the jail cells. The answers were a library room and dining space.

Chairman Sandquist again stated he did not support a local museum and discussed his visit to a similar historic building that was made into a local museum which is open only two days per month.

Discussion followed of making the jail cells into incubator space. Commissioner Stumpf stated he does not see the jail cells as incubator space. He opined that until recently museums have been static things. He stated technology has changed this, including the digitalization of documents about McHenry County, noting there is much room for innovation. J. Prindiville stated when he investigated museums, he learned they must include rotating exhibits which must be kept new and fresh to keep people coming in.

FINANCIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Chairman Sandquist gave an update on the Community Development Block Grant process. In response to a question from J. Prindiville, he stated the City could ask for a grant for the Old Courthouse but at this time it would not be considered because it would not meet the requirements

that the County has established for what the funds can be used for. He noted a change to this is in the works so that next spring the City could potentially make application.

Concerning possible next steps, Commission Stumpf stated that he did not favor spending additional funds at this time and asked if City staff could conduct the analysis. He noted there are several other uses the Commission does not think ArtSpace is the best of investigate. He also stated he does not favor paying ArtSpace any additional money at this time.

Chairman Sandquist stated he does not know that the Commission has agreed on what the uses are that should be analyzed. Commissioner Stumpf stated the Commission knows they want a restaurant and an art space. He opined the idea of a national monument should be explored further and more information should be gathered concerning an incubator.

J. Prindiville stated his agreement with Commissioner Stumpf. He stated the process is taking time but the Commission has made progress and is close to moving forward and taking action. He stated he does not agree with the restaurant but noted that is his opinion.

In response to a question from Chairman Sandquist, Commissioner Stumpf suggested that the City formulate a process as to how it is going to get expertise and access to the scenarios discussed. He suggested this would include someone from 1871 and a farm family and stated he would like to see this process developed. Commissioner Prindiville suggested Amy Weintraub from Lake Forest would be a good resource and also suggested the Executive Director of the Winnetka Community House. He stated he would be willing to look into this and set up the meeting.

Commission Stumpf stated what is needed immediately is to know how Groton House got from where they were to where they are right now. He noted they might have some insight on how they figured things out. J. Prindiville stated it was a couple of people with money and a lot of people with passion. He also noted there was a core group and a lot of public involvement.

In response to a question from Chairman Sandquist as to whether City staff could come up with ideas on how to proceed, G. Anderson stated it would be a good recommendation to City Council to follow-up on the core uses and their feeling that perhaps ArtSpace is not the correct vendor to analyze additional uses.

J. Campion stated he is not in favor of spending any additional money on studies unless the next study is how the City gets the money, noting the core problem is funding. He stated he would be reluctant to recommend to the City Council that they spend more money on what to do with the Old Courthouse as there have already been two studies done on this subject. T. Doornbosch agreed, stating the commission has already come up with a lot of ideas and is making progress.

J. White stated the Commission is not listening to the public because office space and small business incubators is last on the survey results. He noted the Commission should look at demographics. Mr. White stated people want arts and entertainment, noting the Commission is asking them what they want and they are answering. He stated he is not supportive of exploring ideas the public is not in favor of.

T. Doornbosch stated the survey is only one narrow area and the City has not done anything else to gain community input. She noted it has already been decided that the buildings not include

residential. Chairman Sandquist noted there was a prior decision that this should remain a public building.

J. White stated the Commission should be looking at how to fund this, noting everyone would love to see a public-private partnership. He stated 30.82% of the survey respondents approve a referendum opining this indicates the public is supportive of a referendum because only 50.1% is needed. He further stated sometimes a referendum does not work the first time but does the second time, noting it could take two election cycles to pass but noted the City may find the resources to fund this project as 30% of the responders indicated they would pay extra for this.

Commissioner Stumpf estimated that it would increase property taxes by about \$200 per year. J. Prindiville noted this would take a tremendous amount of public support. J. White opined that this is what it will come down to in the end, noting he is pleased to see this number so early in the survey process. He stated his opinion that the survey should be expanded as this is information the Commission needs and should support.

T. Doornbosch reiterated that the survey is only one aspect of gaining public information. She stated some other suggestions were to visit local service groups and going out to the Farmers Market. Commissioner Doornbosch noted the survey reaches only certain types of people and the Commission should make sure to reach others in the community and the county. She suggested making presentations to various groups and noted there are many things the Commission has not tried to gain the desired information.

Commissioner Stumpf opined the Friends of the Old Courthouse should make a presentation to the Commission on their efforts thus far. Susan Stelford, representative of the Friends, stated the group has spoken with some potentially large donors who do not wish to be named at this time and who are not willing to give money without know the use for the buildings. Chairman Sandquist stated the group should be asked to make a presentation at next month's meeting.

Commissioner Stumpf stated people come with money and the City must decide if this is aligned with the City's mission for the buildings. Those offers could then be taken seriously. He opined that these people should meet with the Mayor and members of the City Council but that the Commission should hear about them at some level. J. Prindiville stated it should be asked if the donor's contribution is compatible with the public good.

FUTURE USE RESEARCH UPDATE

Chairman Sandquist stated it has been noted that the Commission has previously discussed the incubator concept. He stated that he and Commission Townsend-Kise have not made much progress on the study of a university use. He noted they met with representatives of the writing lab located on the Square and they felt they would not benefit from a university presence.

Commissioner Stumpf opined that the University connection would probably be with University of Illinois Extension.

Chairman Sandquist stated he is interested in exploring the Extension office concept with Commissioner Stumpf expressing his agreement. Chairman Sandquist stated he will work to set up a meeting with them for Commissioner Stumpf and himself and invited City staff to join them.

STAFF UPDATES

In response to a question from Commissioner White concerning the windows, N. Baker stated the City Council did not approve the windows bid on the first attempt. She noted Council was concerned about a few of the details because it is such a large, public project. She described some of these details and stated the bid was approved at a Special Meeting of the City Council the week following the regular City Council meeting.

J. White stated he was embarrassed to read this in the newspaper. He stated he does not think the City Council realized there was a Commission that already discussed this and that he felt undermined. He opined there is a redundancy and expressed displeasure that the Commission spent all those hours discussing the windows only to have the item tabled.

J. Prindiville stated he does not feel there is a problem with the Council tabling the item to obtain additional information at all. He noted the Commission did have a discussion about the windows but never voted.

Chairman Sandquist stated he believes it is fine if they have questions, noting the Commission discussed that the windows were a priority but not the details. He also noted that the Historic Preservation Commission had reviewed the project.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A brief discussion followed of the dates for the November and December meetings with the consensus being to leave the dates for those meetings as previously established.

Chairman Sandquist reminded the Commission that Nancy Baker will transmit Commissioner Stumpf's packet of information to the other members.

Chairman Sandquist also noted that information about the national monument will be in the minutes and transmitted to Council in Nancy Baker's notes. He stated Commissioner Stumpf may also discuss this with the Mayor.

Chairman Sandquist asked the Commission if there was anyone continuing research on uses stating his opinion that the university use has not been completed to his satisfaction but the research thus far has not gained much traction.

J. White noted he reached out to an architect to try gauge interest in 3D modeling but was unsuccessful. He stated that Commissioner Anderson was going to talk with some universities with architectural programs to see if this could be created by them at no expense. In response, N. Baker stated a professor suggested an approach but the students had not yet expressed interest.

J. Prindiville stated he will not contact Winnetka House until the Commission has refined the information which they wish to gather.

ADJOURN

Motion by D. Stumpf, second by J. Prindiville, to adjourn this regular meeting of the Old Courthouse and Sheriff's House Advisory Commission to the next regular meeting on Monday, October 17, 2016 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Ayes: J. Campion, T. Doornbosch, J. Prindiville, D. Stumpf, J. White, and Chairman D. Sandquist. Nays: none.

Abstentions: none. Absentees: L. Anderson and T. Townsend-Kise. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Smiley
City Clerk